



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
NCNA DIRECTOR INVITED TO CALL ON GOVERNOR	1
SPECIAL FLIGHT TO COLLECT HK PEOPLE FROM PEKING	1
EMBASSY MAKING ENQUIRIES ON WHEREABOUTS OF MR LEE CHUK-YAN .	2
OMELCO MEMBERS EXPRESS SHOCK AT PEKING EVENTS	2
NO QUESTION OF BANKS NOT ABLE TO MEET COMMITMENTS: FS	3
BANKS TO REMAIN OPEN ON WEDNESDAY	4
SENTIMENTS OF CIVIL SERVANTS RESPECTED	4
SCHOOLS HAVE DISCRETION ON APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES	5
CS CALLS FOR POSITIVE APPROACH IN TACKLING POLLUTION	5
WHITE PAPER CONFIRMS GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT	8
PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES SUPPORT WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1989 ..	9
RESULTS OF 1987 SURVEY ON TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES ...	10
ANTI-OBSTRUCTION CAMPAIGN ENTERS ENFORCEMENT PHASE	14
NOMINATIONS FOR MOST ACCESSIBLE BUILDINGS INVITED	15
STUDENTS PLANT TREES IN TAI PO	16
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STUDIES	16
SLOPE SAFETY TO BE RAISED AT COMMITTEE MEETING	17
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHAM SHUI PO, KWUN TONG	18
EXHIBITION OF CHINESE TEXTBOOKS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS	20
VIEWS EXCHANGED ON MEDICAL SERVICES	20
RS TO OFFICIATE AT TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE	21
LARGEST DRAGON BOAT RACES IN TUEN MUN	22
WATER STORAGE FIGURE	23

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 1 -

NCNA DIRECTOR INVITED TO CALL ON GOVERNOR
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, INVITED THE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG BRANCH OF THE NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY, MR XU JIATUN, TO CALL ON HIM TODAY (MONDAY).

THE GOVERNOR TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO EMPHASISE THE DEEP CONCERN FELT BY HONG KONG PEOPLE AT RECENT EVENTS IN CHINA.

HE ALSO ASKED FOR THE CO-OPERATION OF THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES IN ENSURING THE SAFETY OF HONG KONG PEOPLE AT PRESENT IN PEKING.

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SPECIAL FLIGHT TO COLLECT HK PEOPLE FROM PEKING
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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS CHARTERED A DRAGONAIR BOEING 737 AIRCRAFT TO MAKE A SPECIAL FLIGHT TO PEKING TO COLLECT STUDENTS, JOURNALISTS AND OTHER HONG KONG RESIDENTS WHO WISH TO RETURN TO HONG KONG.

THE AIRCRAFT LEFT KAI TAK AIRPORT AT 3.45 THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON AND IS PLANNED TO RETURN TO HONG KONG LATE THIS EVENING.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN PEKING IS WORKING ROUND THE CLOCK TO KEEP IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH BRITISH NATIONALS AND PEOPLE FROM HONG KONG STRANDED IN PEKING BY THE RECENT EVENTS.

THE EMBASSY HAVE ALREADY CONTACTED MOST OF THOSE PEOPLE THEY HAVE RECEIVED INFORMATION AND HAVE INFORMED THEM OF THE SPECIAL EVACUATION FLIGHT.

WHERE POSSIBLE THE EMBASSY HAVE OFFERED ASSISTANCE IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO ENABLE THEM TO LEAVE PEKING IF THEY WISH.

CURRENTLY ABOUT 70 HONG KONG RESIDENTS ARE GATHERED AT PEKING AIRPORT. ALL OF THESE SHOULD BE ACCOMMODATED ON THE AIRCRAFT, WHICH CAN SEAT 125.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IN SOME PARTS OF PEKING IT REMAINED TOO DANGEROUS TO GO OUT.

"THE EMBASSY ARE ADVISING PEOPLE IN THESE AREAS TO STAY PUT. THEY ARE KEEPING IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THEM AND WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO HELP THEM MOVE AS SOON AS THIS IS POSSIBLE."

ANY ENQUIRIES CONCERNING HONG KONG PEOPLE CURRENTLY VISITING PEKING MAY BE MADE THROUGH A 24-HOUR GOVERNMENT HOT-LINE WHICH WILL BE OPEN FROM 7 PM THIS EVENING. THE NUMBER TO CALL IS 5-8691313.

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MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 2 -

EMBASSY MAKING ENQUIRIES ON WHEREABOUTS OF MR LEE CHUK-YAN

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES ABOUT MR LEE CHUK-YAN, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: "WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN PEKING WHO KNOW MR LEE CHUK-YAN WELL AND HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR HIS EFFORTS TO ORGANISE AND ASSIST OTHER HONG KONG PEOPLE TO GET TO THE CHARTERED PLANE THIS EVENING. AS YET WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION THAT HE HAS BEEN DETAINED, OR BY WHOM. HOWEVER, THE EMBASSY HAVE LODGED AN ENQUIRY WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND ARE TAKING THIS UP AS A MATTER OF URGENCY."

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OMELCO MEMBERS EXPRESS SHOCK AT PEKING EVENTS

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THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IS ISSUED BY MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS AFTER THEIR SPECIAL IN-HOUSE MEETING THIS (MONDAY) MORNING ABOUT THE RECENT EVENTS IN BEIJING, CHINA:

"ALL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS ARE OUTRAGED AND SHOCKED BY WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN CHINA. WE DEEPLY REGRET THE LOSS OF SO MANY LIVES. WE OBSERVED A ONE MINUTE SILENCE AT THE MEETING AS A TRIBUTE TO ALL THOSE WHO FOUGHT SO BRAVELY FOR WHAT THEY BELIEVED IN.

"WE ENTIRELY UNDERSTAND THE FEELING OF ANGER AND FRUSTRATION OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. THEY HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR VIEWS IN WEEKS IN A DIGNIFIED AND ORDERLY WAY. WE URGE THEM TO CONTINUE THIS RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE WHICH HAS WON THE PRAISE AND ADMIRATION OF MANY AROUND THE WORLD.

"THE EVENTS IN CHINA HAVE HIGHLIGHTED HOW VERY DIFFERENT THE SYSTEMS OF THE TWO PLACES ARE. WE IN HONG KONG, NO MATTER HOW ANGRY WE ARE, MUST PUT ALL OUR ENERGIES INTO PRESERVING THE SEPARATENESS OF OUR SYSTEM, IN PARTICULAR THE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS. OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON THE MAINTENANCE OF OUR EXISTING SYSTEM AND ON OUR CONTINUED STABILITY.

"WE HOPE THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WOULD BEAR THIS IN MIND IN WHATEVER ACTION THEY TAKE WHEN THEY WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR FEELINGS. REMEMBER THAT WE HAVE A DUTY TO OUR OWN CITIZENS IN MAINTAINING OUR OWN PROSPERITY AND STABILITY.

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MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 3 -

"THERE ARE SPECIFIC MATTERS THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOME HONG KONG CITIZENS ARE EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES IN LEAVING BEIJING. WE ARE REQUESTING THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TO ASK THE BRITISH EMBASSY TO EXTEND EVERY ASSISTANCE TO PROTECT THEM AND TO HELP THEM LEAVE BEIJING. A NUMBER OF OUR COLLEAGUES FROM VARIOUS COMMERCIAL FIRMS HAVE OFFERED THEIR STAFF AND VEHICLES IN THEIR OFFICES IN BEIJING TO HELP IN THIS EFFORT SHOULD THE BRITISH EMBASSY SO REQUIRE.

"WE ARE ALSO ASKING THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH A TELEPHONE LINE IN HONG KONG FOR CITIZENS HERE WHO MAY WISH TO SEEK ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE FOR THEIR RELATIVES WHO ARE SEEKING TO LEAVE BEIJING. MEANWHILE, WE WOULD SUGGEST TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG THAT THEY SHOULD NOT GO TO BEIJING FOR THE TIME BEING IF THERE IS NO URGENT NEED TO DO SO UNTIL THE SITUATION THERE IS MORE SETTLED."

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NO QUESTION OF BANKS NOT ABLE TO MEET COMMITMENTS: FS
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SPEAKING TODAY (MONDAY) IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WITHDRAWAL OF DEPOSITS FROM THE BANK OF CHINA AND OTHER CHINA RELATED BANKS, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR PIERS JACOBS, EMPHASIZED THE SOUNDNESS OF HONG KONG'S BANKING SYSTEM AND POINTED OUT THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF BANKS BEING UNABLE TO MEET THEIR COMMITMENTS.

WHILST MR JACOBS INDICATED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD VERY WELL THE STRENGTH OF FEELING, HE ASKED THAT PEOPLE SHOULD REFLECT ON THE POSSIBLE EFFECT THAT LARGE SCALE WITHDRAWALS MIGHT HAVE ON ANY BANKING SYSTEM.

"THE CHINA RELATED BANKS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMY AND HEAVY WITHDRAWALS COULD WELL HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT DOMESTICALLY," HE SAID.

MR JACOBS POINTED OUT THAT ALREADY THERE HAD BEEN SOME EFFECT IN THAT THERE HAD BEEN A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN MARKET INTEREST RATES DESPITE SOME INTERVENTION BY THE EXCHANGE FUND. THIS COULD WELL HURT BORROWERS FROM THE BANKING SYSTEM AND WOULD NOT BE GOOD FOR BUSINESS.

ON THE MONEY MARKET, MR JACOBS SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE TIGHTNESS OF INTER-BANK LIQUIDITY, THE EXCHANGE FUND TODAY INJECTED ADDITIONAL LIQUIDITY TOTTALLING \$194 MILLION INTO THE INTER-BANK MARKET.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY REITERATED THAT THE EXCHANGE FUND WOULD BE USED AS NECESSARY TO HELP MAINTAIN STABILITY IN THE BANKING SYSTEM AND IN THE EXCHANGE VALUE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR.

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AS FOR THE STOCK AND FUTURES MARKETS, MR JACOBS SAID TRADING WAS ORDERLY ON BOTH MARKETS TODAY AND THERE WERE NO SIGNS OF ANY DIFFICULTY IN MEETING MARGIN REQUIREMENTS ON THE FUTURES MARKET.

"INVESTORS SHOULD NOT OVER-REACT TO EVENTS ELSEWHERE AND SHOULD REMEMBER THAT THE POLITICAL FACTOR IS ONLY ONE OF THE MANY FACTORS AFFECTING SHARE PRICES."

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION ARE CLOSELY MONITORING THE SITUATION, HE SAID.

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BANKS TO REMAIN OPEN ON WEDNESDAY

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THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS IS AWARE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A CALL FOR A GENERAL STRIKE IN HONG KONG ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7. FURTHERMORE THE ASSOCIATION UNDERSTANDS THAT IT IS INTENDED THAT ANY SUCH STRIKE SHOULD EXCLUDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES SUCH AS BANKING.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS TODAY IN WHICH, INTER ALIA, THEY SAID:

"WE HAVE A DUTY TO OUR OWN CITIZENS IN MAINTAINING OUR OWN PROSPERITY AND STABILITY."

THE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION BELIEVES THAT AS AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, BANKS SHOULD REMAIN OPEN FOR BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY AND IS ENCOURAGING ITS MEMBERS TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO DO SO.

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SENTIMENTS OF CIVIL SERVANTS RESPECTED

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES ON CIVIL SERVANTS' PARTICIPATION IN THE MASS ACTIVITIES ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 7), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID:

"THE GOVERNMENT APPRECIATES THE SENTIMENTS OF CIVIL SERVANTS AND RESPECTS THEIR INDIVIDUAL DECISION TO PARTICIPATE IN MASS ACTIVITIES. BUT AT THE SAME TIME, IT CONSIDERS IT IMPERATIVE THAT ALL GOVERNMENT SERVICES FOR THE PUBLIC SHOULD REMAIN OPEN AND THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO DISRUPTION OF ESSENTIAL PUBLIC SERVICES.

"STAFF OTHER THAN THOSE WHO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL OR EMERGENCY SERVICES SHOULD APPLY FOR LEAVE IF THEY WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN MASS ACTIVITIES.

"THE GOVERNMENT TRUSTS THAT CIVIL SERVANTS WILL BEHAVE RESPONSIBLY AND WILL MINIMISE INCONVENIENCE TO THE PUBLIC WHEREVER POSSIBLE."

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MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 5 -

SCHOOLS HAVE DISCRETION ON APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED A NUMBER OF ENQUIRIES FROM SCHOOLS RELATING TO REQUESTS FROM SOME TEACHERS AND STUDENTS TO TAKE PART IN ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRAGIC EVENTS IN PEKING OVER THE WEEKEND.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "THE DEPARTMENT IS WELL AWARE OF THE SENTIMENTS AMONG MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ON WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN CHINA. INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS WILL BE FREE TO DECIDE WHAT SORT OF ACTIVITIES WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE IN THEIR OWN CIRCUMSTANCES.

"IN HANDLING REQUESTS FROM TEACHERS AND STUDENTS, WE ARE SURE THAT SCHOOL PRINCIPALS WILL HANDLE THEM WITH GOOD SENSE JUST AS THEY DID IN PARTICIPATING IN SIMILAR ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE AGE, SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE STUDENTS, AND ANY EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE ON THE DAY."

AS REGARDS PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES ADVOCATED FOR WEDNESDAY FOR SECONDARY 3 STUDENTS AND ABOVE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID ALL TEACHERS AND STUDENTS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE SHOULD OBTAIN APPROVAL OF THEIR SCHOOL PRINCIPALS. STUDENTS PARTICIPATING SHOULD ALSO HAVE THE CONSENT OF THEIR PARENTS.

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CS CALLS FOR POSITIVE APPROACH IN TACKLING POLLUTION

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, HAS CALLED ON THE COMMUNITY TO TAKE AN ACTIVE APPROACH IN AIRING VIEWS ON PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACHIEVING THE AIM OF PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY, WHICH FELL TODAY, WAS A CHALLENGE TO THE COMMUNITY IN THE FORM OF A WHITE PAPER ON POLLUTION THAT SETS OUT, COLDLY AND COMPREHENSIVELY, THE TARGETS WHICH THE COMMUNITY MUST ACHIEVE IF WE AND OUR CHILDREN ARE TO ENJOY A QUALITY OF LIFE, OF HEALTH AND COMFORT IN THE YEARS TO COME.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, IN A SPEECH DELIVERED ON HIS BEHALF BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR MARTIN LEWIS, AT A LUNCH MEETING OF THE HONG KONG MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, URGED ALL CONCERNED TO READ THE DOCUMENT.

"SO BY ALL MEANS CRITICISE THE WHITE PAPER, TELL US THAT IT DOES NOT GO FAR ENOUGH, TELL US HOW TO TACKLE THE PROBLEMS MORE EFFECTIVELY, TELL US MORE RESOURCES SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO THE TASKS WE HAVE SET OURSELVES," HE SAID.

/ "BUT PLEASE

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 6 -

"BUT PLEASE DO NOT TELL US TO DO LESS, THAT WE ARE BEING TOO AMBITIOUS, OR THAT WE ARE MAKING STANDARDS TOO TIGHT."

SIR DAVID EXPLAINED THAT HE USED THE WORD COLDLY, "BECAUSE WE ADMIT PAST MISTAKES WITHOUT APOLOGY AND CONCENTRATE ON AN OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE DAMAGE THAT HAS RESULTED."

"COMPREHENSIVELY, BECAUSE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ONE DOCUMENT WE SET DOWN OUR OBJECTIVES FOR TACKLING ALL FORMS OF POLLUTION: OF AIR AND WATER, NOISE, AND WASTE, REGARDLESS OF SOURCE, WHETHER INDUSTRIAL OR DOMESTIC," HE SAID.

"AT THE SAME TIME WE SET DOWN WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE: NOT JUST REMEDIAL WORK, BUT ALSO THE ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATION AND PLANNING WHICH MUST BE SET IN TRAIN TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF PRESENT ILLS."

THE CHIEF SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT THE NORMAL GREEN PAPER STAGE HAD BEEN DISPENSED WITH BECAUSE URGENCY DEMANDED UNUSUAL MEASURES, ADDING THAT THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTED NO CONSULTATION.

"OF COURSE WE NEED TO HAVE DISCUSSION WITH THOSE AFFECTED IN INDUSTRY, AND WITH ALL OF THOSE AGENCIES ON WHOM THE GOVERNMENT MUST RELY IN IMPLEMENTING ITS PLANS," HE SAID.

"INDEED MANY HAVE BEEN CONSULTED ALREADY BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN DRAWING UP THE DOCUMENT. BUT THIS TIME PUBLIC CONSULTATION IS TO BE FROM A BENCHMARK: CONSULTATION ON HOW, ON THE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACHIEVING AIMS, NOT ON WHETHER THE AIMS ARE RIGHT."

SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGES OF THE WHITE PAPER WAS POLLUTERS SHOULD PAY.

HE SAID NONE OF WHAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD PROPOSED WAS CHEAP, FOR EXAMPLE, AT LEAST \$20 BILLION WAS NEEDED FOR MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS, IN PARTICULAR NEW SEWAGE SYSTEMS. "BUT THESE ARE ALSO AN INVESTMENT FOR THE FUTURE. AN INVESTMENT WHOSE DIVIDENDS WILL BE REAPED IN A BETTER ENVIRONMENT AND A CHEAPER AND MORE EFFICIENT MEANS OF MANAGING IT: BY PREVENTING DAMAGE RATHER THAN REPAIRING IT."

HE NOTED THAT SOME OF THE EXPENDITURE WAS A FAIR CHARGE ON THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE THROUGH TAXATION. "SOME, BUT NOT ALL. WE ALL CONTRIBUTE TO HOUSEHOLD WASTE; WE ALL MUST THEREFORE CONTRIBUTE TO ITS REMOVAL."

"WE DO NOT ALL CONTRIBUTE TO INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION, SO WE SHOULD NOT ALL PAY FOR CLEANING IT UP," HE SAID.

"THERE IS NO REASON WHY THE COMMUNITY SHOULD SUBSIDISE DIRTY INDUSTRIES BY TIDYING UP THEIR WASTE PRODUCTS, OR PUTTING RIGHT DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT CAUSED BY THEIR CARELESSNESS OR THEIR UNWILLINGNESS TO INVEST IN MODERN TREATMENT FACILITIES.

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"THE COST OF SUCH TREATMENT MUST BE BUILT INTO INDUSTRY CALCULATIONS OF PROFITABILITY. THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGES OF THE WHITE PAPER: POLLUTERS SHOULD PAY."

THE GOVERNMENT'S TOP PRIORITIES ARE TO IMPROVE SUBSTANTIALLY AIR AND WATER QUALITY IN HONG KONG, AND STEPS BEING TAKEN TOWARD THIS AIM INCLUDE RELOCATING ALL GARBAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL AWAY FROM THE URBAN AREAS, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE URBAN AND MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.

CHEMICAL WASTE WILL BE TREATED IN A PURPOSE BUILT TREATMENT CENTRE WHICH WILL COMMENCE OPERATIONS IN 1991; \$12 BILLION WILL BE SPENT OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS TO COMPLETELY OVERHAUL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS; AIR POLLUTION CONTROLS WILL BE TIGHTENED SO THAT WE DO NOT POISON OURSELVES THROUGH USE OF POOR QUALITY FUELS AND ILL-DESIGNED ENGINES.

THE NEW NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE WILL BE INTRODUCED GRADUALLY TO BRING DOWN THE NOISE LEVEL IN THE WORK PLACE, ON CONSTRUCTION SITES AND IN THE HOME; MORE THOUGHTFUL PLANNING WILL BE PUT INTO DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SO THAT THE MISTAKES OF THE PAST ARE NOT REPEATED; AND MOST OF ALL TO BRING ALL OF THE COMMUNITY, MANAGERS, MANUFACTURERS AND MEN AND WOMEN IN THE STREET, BEHIND THE GOVERNMENT IN THINKING AND BEHAVING RESPONSIBLY.

SIR DAVID APPEALED TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, AS RESPONSIBLE MANAGERS AND BUSINESSMEN, TO THINK IN TERMS OF COSTS: WHETHER IN THE LONG RUN IT WAS CHEAPER TO PREVENT OR TO PUT RIGHT. "THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE ANSWER," HE SAID.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY NOTED THAT HONG KONG HAD COME A LONG WAY SINCE THE NOVELTY OF CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGNS AND 'LAP SAP CHUNG'. "BUT WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO, THE NEW TOWNS, URBAN RENEWALS AND THE HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING WHICH THEY HAVE PRODUCED FOR ALL HAVE CREATED A CLEANER AND HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT."

"BUT A VISIT TO OUR BEACHES AND COUNTRY PARKS IS ENOUGH TO CONVINCED EVERYONE THAT WE LIVE IN A 'THROW AWAY' OR RATHER A 'THROW ANYWHERE' SOCIETY. THIS IS AS EXPENSIVE AS IT IS UNNECESSARY."

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT 1989 WAS A YEAR FOR DECISIONS.

"WE LIVE IN ONE OF THE TRULY GREAT CITIES OF THE WORLD. WE HAVE BUILT IT BY OUR OWN COURAGE AND EXERTIONS. AS A COMMUNITY WE HAVE TRIUMPHED OVER ENORMOUS HARDSHIPS. WE HAVE SET AN EXAMPLE TO THE WORLD IN MANY FIELDS, IN HOUSING, IN HEALTH, IN EDUCATION, IN THE BOLDNESS OF OUR INFRASTRUCTURAL PLANNING, IN THE SPEED WITH WHICH WE HAVE RACED TOWARDS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS.

"THE WORLD IS LITTERED WITH HORRENDOUS EXAMPLES OF HOW NOT TO DEAL WITH POLLUTION IN CROWDED URBAN ENVIRONMENTS.

"LET US BE DETERMINED TO SHOW THE WORLD ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF HOW THINGS SHOULD AND CAN BE DONE," THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID.

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 8 -

WHITE PAPER CONFIRMS GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT

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FAR-REACHING STRATEGIES TO TACKLE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AT A COST OF OVER \$20 BILLION WERE OUTLINED IN A WHITE PAPER RELEASED BY GOVERNMENT TODAY (MONDAY).

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY (ENVIRONMENT), LANDS AND WORKS, MR MARTIN LEWIS, SAID THE WHITE PAPER ON POLLUTION WAS NOT PRECEDED BY A GREEN PAPER AS THERE WERE ALREADY MANY PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES IN PROGRESS.

RATHER THAN DELAYING THEM, THE ADMINISTRATION HAD TAKEN THE VIEW THAT A COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT OF THE CURRENT POSITION, AND THE FIRM INTENTIONS FOR DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS WOULD BE A BETTER RESPONSE TO THE COMMUNITY'S MOUNTING CONCERN OVER THE DETERIORATING ENVIRONMENT, HE SAID.

HOWEVER, MR LEWIS STRESSED THAT PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE WHITE PAPER'S STRATEGIES WILL STILL BE VERY WELCOME.

"COMMENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AND WE STILL FOLLOW OUR NORMAL CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES WITH THOSE AFFECTED BY ANY NEW STRATEGIES, IN PARTICULAR THE INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS, AND THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS OVER THE DRAFT WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN FOR EXAMPLE," MR LEWIS SAID.

"ALL THIS WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN AN OVERALL FRAMEWORK OF ACTION AND URGENCY," HE ADDED.

ON WASTE MANAGEMENT, MR LEWIS SAID THREE LARGE LANDFILLS WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED IN THE NEW TERRITORIES LEADING TO THE EVENTUAL PHASING OUT OF URBAN INCINERATORS.

A CHEMICAL WASTE TREATMENT CENTRE WOULD ALSO BE CONSTRUCTED, AND MOST OF THE 100,000 TONNES OF CHEMICAL WASTE CURRENTLY PRODUCED EACH YEAR WOULD BE TREATED THERE.

TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY, MR LEWIS SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD REVIEW THE ADEQUACY OF THE EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE COLLECTION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE. ALSO 21 SEWERAGE MASTER PLANS WOULD SET OUT TO IDENTIFY NEW SEWER CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

"AND WE WILL SHORTLY EXAMINE OUR SEWAGE DISPOSAL OPTIONS ARISING FROM THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE SEWAGE STRATEGY STUDY DUE TO BE COMPLETED LAST AUGUST," MR LEWIS ADDED.

HE ALSO SAID THAT IT WAS GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO ESTABLISH WATER CONTROL ZONES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY SO THAT WE COULD BETTER CONTROL WHAT WAS BEING DISCHARGED INTO THEM.

THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE WILL ALSO NEED TO BE REVIEWED, THE AIM BEING TO REMOVE THE EXEMPTIONS AND THE ALLOWANCE OF THE 30 PER CENT INCREASE IN DISCHARGE ABOVE THE AMOUNT DISCHARGED AT THE TIME THE CONTROLS IN A PARTICULAR WATER CONTROL ZONE ARE IMPLEMENTED.

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ON THE PROBLEMS OF AIR POLLUTION, MR LEWIS SAID AIR CONTROL ZONES WOULD COVER THE WHOLE OF HONG KONG TO PROVIDE A LEGAL FRAMEWORK TO TACKLE POLLUTING EMISSIONS.

"WE AIM TO START ON THAT THIS YEAR. CONCURRENTLY, WE ARE AIMING TO INTRODUCE NEW LEGISLATION UNDER THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF INDUSTRIAL FUEL OIL WITH A SULPHUR CONTENT GREATER THAN 0.5 PER CENT BY WEIGHT," MR LEWIS SAID.

HE ADDED THAT IN THE LONGER TERM THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DEVELOP A STRATEGY COMPELLING ALL NEW VEHICLES TO COMPLY WITH THE MOST STRINGENT INTERNATIONAL EMISSION STANDARDS, REQUIRING NEW PETROL-ENGINED VEHICLES TO BE FITTED WITH CATALYTIC CONVERTERS FOR THE INTAKE OF LEADFREE PETROL.

"WE ALSO NEED TO MOVE TOWARDS LEADFREE PETROL, AND ALSO EXAMINE MEASURES AIMED AT REDUCING RELIANCE ON DIESEL ENGINED VEHICLES WHICH CAUSE SO MUCH POLLUTION," MR LEWIS SAID.

MR LEWIS DESCRIBED THE WHITE PAPER AS A 'VERY FRANK' DOCUMENT FREELY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE MAIN REASON THE ENVIRONMENT WAS IN AN UNSATISFACTORY STATE WAS THAT IN THE PAST THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY MADE CHOICES THAT GAVE TOO LITTLE EMPHASIS TO THE NEEDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

"WE NOW HAVE TO RECOVER LOST GROUND. THE GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO GIVING GREATER EMPHASIS TO THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE FUTURE, AND WILL SEEK THE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES FOR THE MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS THAT ARE NEEDED.

"BUT IF WE ARE TO SAVE OUR ENVIRONMENT WE MUST GET ON WITH THIS QUICKLY. IT IS TIME FOR CONCERTED ACTION," MR LEWIS SAID.

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PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES SUPPORT WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1989

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THREE PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES TODAY ORGANISED TREE-PLANTING ACTIVITIES TO COMMEMORATE THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1989.

THE TREES WHICH WERE PLANTED IN THE ESTATES - KWAI SHING WEST, WO CHE, AND SHAN KING - INCLUDED FAN PALM, SHRUBS, KING PALM, MAPLE AND AZALEA.

THE PLANTING ACTIVITIES WERE KICKED OFF IN OPENING CEREMONIES WHICH FEATURED MUSICAL BAND PERFORMANCES, SPEECHES BY OFFICIATING GUESTS, RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONIES, UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL PLAQUE, PRESENTATION OF SOUVENIRS AND BANNERS.

IN AN OPENING SPEECH, CHAIRMAN OF KWAI SHING AREA COMMITTEE, WAN HING-YUEN, POINTED OUT THAT KWAI TSING DISTRICT WAS A FAST-DEVELOPING RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY. "THE DENSE POPULATION, COUPLED WITH THE VAST NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL PREMISES, HAS CAUSED ABOUT INEVITABLE AIR POLLUTION IN THE AREA."

/MR WAN

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 10 -

MR WAN URGED THE RESIDENTS OF THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT TO ACTIVELY TAKE PART IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POLLUTION AND PLEDGE SUPPORT TO THE TREE-PLANTING ACTIVITIES.

ALSO IN THE OPENING ADDRESS, CHAIRMAN OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE, TUEN MUN, TSO SHIU-WAI, CALLED ON THE TENANTS TO PRESERVE THE PLANTS IN THE ESTATE AREA AS "TREES PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN MAINTAINING A LIVELY ENVIRONMENT. TREES CAN PURIFY AIR, PREVENT SOIL EROSION, AND PRESERVE SOIL WATER."

A SIMILAR APPEAL WAS MADE BY SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER LAM HUNG-CHIU IN HIS OPENING REMARKS.

THE PARTICIPANTS OF TODAY'S TREE-PLANTING ACTIVITIES INCLUDED DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE MEMBERS, YOUTH CENTRE MEMBERS, SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THEIR PRINCIPALS, HOUSING STAFF, AND RESIDENTS FROM THE HELPING HAND HOSTEL FOR THE ELDERLY.

JUNE 5 WAS DESIGNATED AS WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY BY THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1972. SINCE THEN WED HAD BECOME AN ANNUAL EVENT CELEBRATED IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD WITH THE PROMOTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AMONG THE GENERAL PUBLIC AS THE CENTRAL THEME.

APART FROM CELEBRATING THE WED, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT ORGANISED THE TREE-PLANTING FUNCTIONS WITH TWO SECONDARY OBJECTIVES: FIRSTLY, TO EDUCATE THE ESTATE TENANTS THE NEED TO PROTECT THE PLANTS IN ESTATES; AND SECONDLY, TO PROMOTE PUBLIC'S PARTICIPATION IN IMPROVING THE ESTATE ENVIRONMENT.

SIX OTHER HOUSING ESTATES AND ONE TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA WILL CONDUCT A SERIES OF PLANTING ACTIVITIES FROM JUNE 9 TO 18 IN SUPPORT OF THE WED.

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RESULTS OF 1987 SURVEY ON TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES

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THE 1987 SURVEY OF TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THAT 34,562 TRANSPORT ESTABLISHMENTS WERE IN OPERATION DURING THE WHOLE OR PART OF 1987, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 1 PER CENT OVER 1986.

THEY ENGAGED, IN TOTAL, 143,236 PERSONS, AN INCREASE OF 4 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

/IN 1987

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 11 -

IN 1987, THESE ESTABLISHMENTS GENERATED \$83,728 MILLION OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME; AND SPENT \$9,336 MILLION ON COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AND \$61,323 MILLION ON OPERATING EXPENSES. WHEN COMPARED WITH 1986, BUSINESS RECEIPTS INCREASED BY 24 PER CENT; COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES BY 18 PER CENT, AND OPERATING EXPENSES BY 16 PER CENT.

ALL VALUE FIGURES ARE EXPRESSED IN CURRENT PRICE TERMS. PERCENTAGE CHANGES DERIVED FROM THESE FIGURES HAVE NOT BEEN ADJUSTED FOR PRICE INCREASES.

THE SECTOR'S VALUE ADDED GREW BY 38 PER CENT TO \$22,423 MILLION IN 1987, FROM \$16,258 MILLION IN 1986. VALUE ADDED IS A MEASURE OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF AN ECONOMIC SECTOR TO HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT.

ANALYSED BY MAJOR TRANSPORT GROUP, THE SURVEY SHOWED THAT, IN 1987, SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT (SUCH AS ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN AIR FREIGHT/SHIPPING FORWARDING, PACKING AND CRATING GOODS FOR TRANSPORTATION, TRAVEL AGENTS AND SHIPBROKERS) HAD THE LARGEST SHARE OF BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME, AT \$35,478 MILLION OR 42 PER CENT OF THE SECTOR TOTAL.

OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT ACCOUNTED FOR ANOTHER 17 PER CENT; AIR TRANSPORT TOOK UP 15 PER CENT; LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT 14 PER CENT; LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT 5 PER CENT; SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT 4 PER CENT; INLAND WATER TRANSPORT 2 PER CENT; AND SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT 1 PER CENT.

LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT AND AIR TRANSPORT EACH CONTRIBUTED 25 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE ADDED OF THE SECTOR.

THE SECTOR'S REMAINING CONTRIBUTION WAS MADE BY OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT (18 PER CENT); SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT (11 PER CENT); LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT (10 PER CENT); SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT (6 PER CENT); INLAND WATER TRANSPORT (3 PER CENT); AND SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT (2 PER CENT).

WHEN COMPARED WITH 1986, LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT SHOWED THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME (60 PER CENT); FOLLOWED BY SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT (50 PER CENT); SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT (33 PER CENT); LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT (28 PER CENT); AIR TRANSPORT (22 PER CENT); SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT (20 PER CENT); OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT (11 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, INLAND WATER TRANSPORT SHOWED A DECREASE OF 5 PER CENT.

/IN TERMS

IN TERMS OF VALUE ADDED, AIR TRANSPORT RECORDED THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER 1986 (105 PER CENT); FOLLOWED BY OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT (41 PER CENT); SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT (36 PER CENT); LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT (29 PER CENT); SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT (19 PER CENT); LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT (18 PER CENT); SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT (18 PER CENT); AND INLAND WATER TRANSPORT (7 PER CENT).

SOME SELECTED PRINCIPAL STATISTICS BY MAJOR GROUPS FOR 1986 AND 1987 ARE IN THE TABLE TO FOLLOW.

THE 1987 SURVEY WAS ONE IN A SERIES OF ANNUAL SURVEYS CONDUCTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING THE STRUCTURE AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TRANSPORT SECTOR, AND UPDATING ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF HONG KONG.

DATA COLLECTED IN THE SURVEY INCLUDED TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, FLOOR AREA, NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES, OPERATING EXPENSES, BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME, AND ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL OF FIXED ASSETS.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY OF THE SURVEY, TOGETHER WITH TABLES SHOWING THE PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR ALL ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES SECTOR, CLASSIFIED BY MAJOR GROUP AND ANALYSED BY VARIOUS ECONOMIC VARIABLES, ARE INCLUDED IN THE 1987 SURVEY OF TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES REPORT. THIS REPORT WILL BE ON SALE IN END OF JUNE 1989 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19/F, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRANSPORT AND SERVICES STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 5-8234925).

/COMPARISON OF

COMPARISON OF SELECTED PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR ALL ESTABLISHMENTS
IN THE TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES SECTOR BETWEEN 1986 AND 1987

MAJOR GROUP		NUMBER OF ESTABLISH- MENTS	NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	COMPENSA- TION OF EMPLOYEES	OPERATING EXPENSES	BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME	GROSS ADDITIONS TO FIXED ASSETS	VALUE ADDED
LAND PASSENGER TRANSPORT	1987	20 707	48 058	28 639	2 004	4 631	11 705	1 202	5 564
	1986	20 944	50 304	29 211	1 892	4 080	7 307	3 741	4 720
	% change	-1	-4	-2	+6	+14	+60	-68	+18
LAND FREIGHT TRANSPORT	1987	9 556	26 703	17 172	873	2 299	4 006	442	2 243
	1986	9 391	25 250	15 821	686	1 714	3 131	302	1 744
	% change	+2	+6	+9	+27	+34	+28	+46	+29
SUPPORTING SERVICES TO LAND TRANSPORT	1987	86	1 608	1 586	88	365	872	165	503
	1986	77	1 212	1 182	60	206	581	4	359
	% change	+12	+33	+34	+47	+77	+50	+3 752	+36
OCEAN AND COASTAL WATER TRANSPORT	1987	388	14 913	14 888	1 530	10 261	14 219	469	3 939
	1986	347	14 047	14 021	1 383	9 886	12 775	90	2 784
	% change	+12	+6	+6	+12	+4	+11	+421	+41
INLAND WATER TRANSPORT	1987	610	5 999	4 974	319	713	1 301	121	622
	1986	656	5 965	5 020	282	831	1 367	107	581
	% change	-7	+1	-1	+13	-14	-5	+14	+7
SUPPORTING SERVICES TO WATER TRANSPORT	1987	1 130	8 792	7 730	579	2 274	3 333	324	1 417
	1986	953	8 037	7 276	497	1 618	2 506	156	1 189
	% change	+19	+9	+6	+16	+40	+33	+108	+19
AIR TRANSPORT	1987	54	11 507	11 507	2 353	7 839	12 815	599	5 609
	1986	54	10 224	10 224	1 818	7 047	10 464	393	2 733
	% change	0	+13	+13	+29	+11	+22	+52	+105
SERVICES INCIDENTAL TO TRANSPORT	1987	2 031	25 656	25 153	1 570	32 942	35 478	417	2 525
	1986	1 882	23 216	22 583	1 311	27 451	29 557	331	2 138
	% change	+8	+11	+11	+20	+20	+20	+26	+18
ALL TRANSPORT GROUPS	1987	34 562	143 236	111 649	9 336	61 323	83 728	3 739	22 423
	1986	34 304	138 255	105 337	7 928	52 834	67 688	5 125	16 258
	% change	+1	+4	+6	+18	+16	+24	-27	+38
GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT SERVICES	1987	3	1 199	1 199	197	300	1 842	288	1 123
	1986	3	1 185	1 185	179	291	1 335	94	933
	% change	0	+1	+1	+9	+3	+38	+208	+20

Notes : (1) Figures denoting changes are derived from unrounded figures.

(2) Individual items may not add up to the corresponding total due to rounding.

(3) Value added is a measure of the contribution of an economic sector to Hong Kong's Gross Domestic Product. The definition can be found in the "1987 Survey of Transport and Related Services" report.

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 14 -

ANTI-OBSTRUCTION CAMPAIGN ENTERS ENFORCEMENT PHASE

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SHOP-OWNERS WHOSE GOODS AND ADVERTISEMENT SIGNS ARE CAUSING OBSTRUCTIONS ON PUBLIC FOOTWAYS IN KWUN TONG WILL FACE STEPPED-OUT ENFORCEMENT ACTION.

"THIS IS TO TIE IN WITH THE FINAL ENFORCEMENT PHASE OF THE THREE-PHASE DISTRICT CAMPAIGN AGAINST FOOTWAY OBSTRUCTIONS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THE CAMPAIGN, INITIATED BY A TASK FORCE FORMED UNDER THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN JANUARY, HAS ENTERED ITS ENFORCEMENT PHASE FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY PHASES IN FEBRUARY AND MAY RESPECTIVELY.

"IN THE FINAL ENFORCEMENT PHASE, THE POLICE AND THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL CARRY OUT WEEKLY JOINT OPERATIONS AGAINST THOSE WHO DO NOT HEED THE MESSAGE CONVEYED TO THEM THROUGH PUBLICITY LEAFLETS AND BROADCAST VANS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE DURING THE PAST FEW MONTHS IN EDUCATING SHOP-OWNERS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING THE PAVEMENT CLEAR, AND REMINDING THEM OF THE POSSIBLE PENALTY FOR OFFENCES.

"NOW THAT THE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY PERIOD IS OVER, VERBAL WARNINGS WILL BE GIVEN TO UNCO-OPERATIVE SHOP-OWNERS DURING JUNE. THEREAFTER, SUMMONSES WILL BE SERVED ON THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO CAUSE OBSTRUCTIONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"IF CONVICTED, AN OFFENDER IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5,000 OR THREE MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT," HE STRESSED.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

A JOINT ENFORCEMENT OPERATION WILL BE CARRIED OUT TOMORROW (TUESDAY) BY THE POLICE AND URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AGAINST FOOTWAY OBSTRUCTIONS IN KWUN TONG, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO COVER THE OPERATION ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE AT 2.30 PM AT THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE CARPARK IN TUNG YAN STREET.

DISTRICT INFORMATION OFFICER, MISS IRENE LAU, WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 15 -

NOMINATIONS FOR MOST ACCESSIBLE BUILDINGS INVITED
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A DESIGN AWARD SCHEME FOR THE MOST ACCESSIBLE BUILDINGS FOR THE DISABLED IN HONG KONG WAS LAUNCHED TODAY (MONDAY) TO PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE SPECIAL ACCESS NEEDS OF DISABLED PERSONS AND THEIR INTEGRATION INTO THE COMMUNITY.

THE AWARD SCHEME IS ALSO AIMED AT GIVING DUE RECOGNITION TO DEVELOPERS AND ARCHITECTS FOR INITIATIVE AND FORETHOUGHT IN PROVIDING ACCESS FACILITIES FOR THE DISABLED.

THE AWARD SCHEME IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE ACCESS AND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AND THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

IT IS BEING IMPLEMENTED BY THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE DESIGN AWARD FOR THE MOST ACCESSIBLE BUILDINGS FOR THE DISABLED IN HONG KONG.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE AWARD SCHEME, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR PETER CHAN, SAID: "DISABLED PEOPLE WILL LIKE TO ENJOY AND HAVE ACCESS TO FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN THE COMMUNITY, AS DO ABLE-BODIED PERSONS.

"YET PHYSICAL BARRIERS IN BUILDINGS POSE ONE OF THE PROBLEMS THAT DISABLED PERSONS FACE IN ACHIEVING FULL INTEGRATION."

MR CHAN INVITED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, ARCHITECTS IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SERVICE, PROPERTY DEVELOPERS AND BUILDING OWNERS TO NOMINATE BUILDINGS WHICH THEY CONSIDER DESERVING OF THE AWARD.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE JUDGED ON THE CRITERIA OF CONVENIENCE, INTEGRATION, INNOVATION, USEFULNESS AND TRANSFERABILITY.

MR CHAN SAID ONE AWARD WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE MOST ACCESSIBLE BUILDING IN EACH OF THE CATEGORIES OF PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, PRIVATE NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, PUBLIC NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS AND REHABILITATION INSTITUTIONS.

NOMINATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE AT DISTRICT OFFICES, DISTRICT WELFARE OFFICES, THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE AND THE REHABILITATION DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT.

COMPLETED FORMS, TOGETHER WITH THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS, SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT BY JULY 31.

THE RESULTS OF THE AWARD SCHEME WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN NOVEMBER.

/AT THE

- 16 -

AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, MR RICKY MA, REPRESENTING ORIENTAL DAILY NEWS AND ORIENTAL DAILY NEWS CHARITABLE FUND ASSOCIATION, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE IBM CHINA/HONG KONG CORPORATION PRESENTED THREE CHEQUES, TOTALLING \$60,000, TO THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THE AWARD SCHEME.

ALSO PRESENT WERE THE COMMISSIONER FOR REHABILITATION, MR ALAN WONG, AND MEMBER OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE DESIGN AWARD FOR THE MOST ACCESSIBLE BUILDINGS FOR THE DISABLED IN HONG KONG, MR JON PRESCOTT.

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STUDENTS PLANT TREES IN TAI PO

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FIFTY STUDENTS FROM PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN TAI PO THIS (MONDAY) MORNING PARTICIPATED IN A TREE-PLANTING EXERCISE IN SUPPORT OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY (WED) 1989.

THE EVENT, ORGANISED BY A WORKING GROUP ON WED UNDER THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND WORKS COMMITTEE, TOOK PLACE IN THE AMENITIES AREA BESIDE WONG KING SHEUNG MEMORIAL SCHOOL IN PLOVER COVE ROAD.

SPEAKING AT A SHORT CEREMONY, THE WORKING GROUP'S CONVENOR, MR HO TAI-WAI, SAID THE GROUP'S ROLE WAS TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES.

APART FROM THE TREE-PLANTING EXERCISE HELD TODAY, OTHER ACTIVITIES TO BE ORGANISED INCLUDE BEACH CLEAN-UPS AND VISITS TO THE WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE'S CONSERVATION STUDY CENTRE IN ISLAND HOUSE.

IN TODAY'S TREE-PLANTING EXERCISE, 25 BAUHINIA AND CANDLENUT SEEDLINGS WERE PLANTED.

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SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STUDIES

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND THE MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

A TOTAL OF \$665,000 WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR FOR SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS AND INTEREST-FREE LOANS FROM THE TWO FUNDS.

/ANNOUNCING THIS

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 17 -

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (MONDAY), THE SECRETARY OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MR JAMES LI SAID, "THE FUNDS WERE SET UP IN 1978 TO HELP PEOPLE WISHING TO SERVE THE LOCAL AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES INDUSTRIES OR RELATED TRADES ON COMPLETION OF THEIR STUDIES, AND ALSO THOSE EMPLOYED IN THE INDUSTRIES WISHING TO PURSUE FURTHER TRAINING.

"ANOTHER AIM OF THE FUNDS IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN OF FARMING AND FISHING FAMILIES TO COMPLETE THEIR SECONDARY SCHOOLING AS A PRE-REQUISITE FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION," HE SAID.

APPLICATIONS FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDIES IN THE NEW SCHOLASTIC YEAR WILL CLOSE ON JULY 14, WHILE THOSE FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL CLOSE ON AUGUST 16.

THE AWARDS WILL BE TENABLE AT ANY UNIVERSITY IN HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, CITY POLYTECHNIC, BAPTIST COLLEGE, ANY TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, ANY ACCEPTABLE OVERSEAS INSTITUTION AND AT ANY SECONDARY SCHOOL IN HONG KONG.

APPLICANTS IN TERTIARY EDUCATION SHOULD BE HONG KONG RESIDENTS UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE WHILE SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICANTS SHOULD BE STUDENTS IN FORMS FOUR TO SEVEN, MR LI SAID.

APPROVED COURSES FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION INCLUDE THOSE ON AGRICULTURE, VETERINARY SCIENCE, MARINE SCIENCE AND BIOLOGY OR ANY APPLIED SCIENCE RELEVANT TO THE LOCAL AGRICULTURAL OR FISHERIES INDUSTRIES AND RELATED TRADES.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, AND FROM VARIOUS DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES LIAISON OFFICES.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE FUNDS AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES CAN BE MADE BY TELEPHONING 3-7332244 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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SLOPE SAFETY TO BE RAISED AT COMMITTEE MEETING

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THE QUESTION OF SAFETY OF SLOPES IN SQUATTER AREAS WILL BE RAISED AT A MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THIS WAS PROMOTED BY THE MUDSLIP IN LOWER LION ROCK VILLAGE DURING THE PASSAGE OF TYPHOON BRENDA LAST MONTH IN WHICH TWO PERSONS DIED.

/THE ADOPTION

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 18 -

THE ADOPTION OF SAFETY MEASURES IN CONSTRUCTION SITES WILL ALSO BE RAISED.

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL PRESENT AN INFORMATION PAPER ON SLOPE SAFETY AT THE MEETING.

MEANWHILE, MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER SIX APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS TO CARRY OUT IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN SQUATTER AREAS, AND THE LAUNCHING OF A CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGN IN THE AREAS AS WELL.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A REPORT ON THE LANDSLIDE INCIDENT IN LOWER LION ROCK VILLAGE AND YAN OI VILLAGE, AND THE FURTHER REPORT ON MISCELLANEOUS CASES OF LANDSLIP/MUDSLIP, STRUCTURAL FAILURE, FIRE AND OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS IN THE SQUATTER AREAS IN WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREAS COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE, 4TH FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHAM SHUI PO, KWUN TONG
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY), TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOR THREE MONTHS IN CONNECTION WITH ROADWORKS AT THE JUNCTION OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND TONKIN STREET.

PRATAS STREET BETWEEN CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND SHUN NING ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND TO ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND. MOTORISTS FROM SHUN NING ROAD WESTBOUND HEADING FOR CASTLE PEAK ROAD EASTBOUND ARE ADVISED TO TRAVEL VIA TONKIN STREET.

THE RIGHT-TURN FROM CASTLE PEAK ROAD EASTBOUND ONTO TONKIN STREET SOUTHBOUND WILL BE BANNED. THEREFORE, MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO TRAVEL VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD, PRATAS STREET, SHUN NING ROAD AND TONKIN STREET.

KMB ROUTES NO. 35A AND 36A WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND YEN CHOW STREET ON JOURNEYS TO SHAM SHUI PO FERRY TERMINUS.

/AT THE

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 19 -

AT THE SAME TIME, PARKING SPACES ON THE EASTERN KERBSIDE OF PRATAS STREET BETWEEN SHUN NING ROAD AND CASTLE PEAK ROAD WILL BE SUSPENDED.

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL ALSO BE INTRODUCED IN KWUN TONG TOWN CENTRE FROM 10 AM TOMORROW TO FACILITATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KWUN TONG TOWN CENTRE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME.

THE RIGHT TURN FROM KWUN TONG ROAD WESTBOUND TO HONG NING ROAD WILL BE BANNED. VEHICLES ON KWUN TONG ROAD WESTBOUND HEADING FOR HONG NING ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA KWUN TONG ROAD WESTBOUND, AND U-TURN AT THE SLIP ROAD NEAR ELEGANCE ROAD AND KWUN TONG ROAD EASTBOUND BEFORE REJOINING HONG NING ROAD.

HONG NING ROAD NORTHBOUND SECTION BETWEEN KWUN TONG ROAD AND NGAU TAU KOK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE MONTH.

THE LEFT TURN FROM HONG NING ROAD NORTHBOUND TO NGAU TAU KOK ROAD AND THE LEFT TURN FROM KWUN TONG ROAD EASTBOUND TO HONG NING ROAD NORTHBOUND WILL BE BANNED FOR ONE MONTH.

VEHICLES (INCLUDING KMB ROUTE NOS. 3D, 6E AND 17) ON KWUN TONG ROAD EASTBOUND HEADING FOR HONG NING ROAD NORTHBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA TUNG YAN STREET AND YUE MAN SQUARE BEFORE REJOINING HONG NING ROAD.

KMB ROUTE NO. 93K WILL ALSO BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA KWUN TONG ROAD EASTBOUND DIRECTLY TO HIP WO STREET FOR ONE MONTH.

CERTAIN OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WILL TAKE EFFECT FOR TWO MONTHS.

NGAU TAU KOK ROAD SECTION BETWEEN TUNG MING STREET AND HONG NING ROAD WILL BE ROUTED ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.

VEHICLES (INCLUDING KMB ROUTE NOS. 89B AND 95M) ON HONG NING ROAD NORTHBOUND HEADING FOR NGAU TAU KOK ROAD WESTBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA YEE ON STREET AND TUNG MING STREET BEFORE REJOINING NGAU TAU KOK ROAD.

KMB ROUTE NOS. 38, 101 AND 141 FROM KWUN TONG ROAD EASTBOUND HEADING FOR YAN OI COURT BUS TERMINUS WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA TUNG YAN STREET, YUE MAN SQUARE AND FU YAN STREET.

KMB ROUTE NOS. 13A, 13D, 23M, 89, 101 AND 141 FROM YUE MAN SQUARE WESTBOUND HEADING FOR NGAU TAU KOK ROAD WESTBOUND WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA HONG NING ROAD, KWUN TONG ROAD AND ELEGANCE ROAD BEFORE REJOINING NGAU TAU KOK ROAD.

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EXHIBITION OF CHINESE TEXTBOOKS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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AN EXHIBITION OF CHINESE TEXTBOOKS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS, PRODUCED UNDER PHASE ONE OF AN INCENTIVE AWARD SCHEME OF THE CHINESE TEXTBOOKS COMMITTEE, WILL NOW BE HELD ON THREE DAYS THIS WEEK.

IT WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT THE HONG KONG TEACHERS' CENTRE AT 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT.

THE EXHIBITION WAS POSTPONED FROM LAST MONTH BECAUSE OF THE PASSAGE OF TYPHOON BRENDA.

SCHOOL HEADS AND TEACHERS ARE WELCOME TO VISIT THE EXHIBITION. THEY MAY BROWSE THROUGH NOT ONLY THESE NEW CHINESE TEXTBOOKS, BUT ALSO THOSE ALREADY ON THE RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS LISTS.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN FROM 3 PM TO 5 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 7), AND FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY (JUNE 9 AND 10).

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI, WILL OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION AT 2.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION OF CHINESE TEXTBOOKS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT ROOM 103, HONG KONG TEACHERS' CENTRE, AT 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT, AT 2.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 7).

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VIEWS EXCHANGED ON MEDICAL SERVICES

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THE DIRECTOR OF HOSPITAL SERVICES, DR T.Y. CHAU, TODAY (MONDAY) MET THE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF POK OI HOSPITAL TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE PROVISION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL SERVICES.

DR CHAU COMMENDED POK OI HOSPITAL FOR PROVIDING MEDICAL SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN YUEN LONG, OVER THE YEARS.

HE SAID: "POK OI HOSPITAL DEEPLY UNDERSTANDS THAT MEDICAL SERVICES HAVE TO COPE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY AND ADVANCEMENT IN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY. THEREFORE, IT HAS EMBARKED ON A SERIES OF EXPANSION PROGRAMMES TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS AND SERVICES.

/"THE EXPANSION

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 21 -

"THE EXPANSION PROJECT IS VERY LARGE AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF THE HOSPITAL ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO PROVIDE MORE COMPREHENSIVE AND BETTER SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC TO MEET THE GROWING NEEDS. THEIR EFFORTS SHOULD BE COMMENDED."

DR CHAU POINTED OUT THAT THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SUPPORTED THE EXPANSION PROGRAMME OF POK QI HOSPITAL AND WOULD OFFER ASSISTANCE TO THE HOSPITAL IN CO-ORDINATING THE VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND APPLYING FOR FUNDS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

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RS TO OFFICIATE AT TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE
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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE ON THURSDAY (JUNE 8).

THE DAY'S RACES WILL TAKE PLACE ALONG THE WATERFRONT OF THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE FROM 9.30 AM TO 1 PM.

THE PROGRAMME IS DIVIDED INTO MEN'S OPEN, WOMEN'S OPEN, MIXED INVITATION AND INDUSTRIAL CUP SECTIONS, AND A TOTAL OF 54 TEAMS WILL BE COMPETING.

THE EVENT HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT DRAGON BOAT RACE COMMITTEE 1989, AND CO-SPONSORED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS BADGES FOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE ON THURSDAY (JUNE 8) ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE NEWS AND PUBLICITY DIVISION, CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS, ON THE 12TH FLOOR, WORLD SHIPPING CENTRE, 7 CANTON ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI, KOWLOON.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, MR PATRICK WONG, ON 0-6565424.

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MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 22 -

LARGEST DRAGON BOAT RACES IN TUEN MUN

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WITH A TOTAL OF 64 DRAGON BOATS TAKING PART IN THE COMING TUEN MUN DISTRICT DRAGON BOAT RACES ON THURSDAY (JUNE 8), THE RACES WILL BE THE LARGEST OF ITS KIND EVER IN THE DISTRICT.

THE RACES WILL BE HELD FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM IN THE CASTLE PEAK BAY TYPHOON SHELTER OFF SAM SHING ESTATE AND WILL INCLUDE LARGE BOAT, INVITATION, OPEN, AND PHEONIX BOAT CATEGORIES.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT 12.45 PM.

ALL RACES WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE BY TELEVISION BROADCAST LTD.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO GO TO THE VENUE ON THAT DAY ARE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE FULL USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT BY TAKING BUS ROUTE NUMBERS 52, 52M AND 53 WHILE LOCAL RESIDENTS CAN ARRIVE THERE BY ROUTE NUMBERS A59, 559 AND 521.

THE BUDGET FOR THE RACES IS \$630,000. THE TUEN MUN DRAGON BOAT RACES ORGANISING COMMITTEE APPLIED FOR \$200,000 FROM THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND \$100,000 FROM THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD FOR THAT PURPOSE. THE REMAINING AMOUNT HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS.

TO MARK THE LAUNCHING OF THREE NEW DRAGON BOATS, AN EYE-DOTTING CEREMONY WAS HELD THIS (MONDAY) MORNING.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WERE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JOHN WAN; TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAU WONG-FAT; AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR TAI CHIN-WAH.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR MICHAEL LEUNG, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE TUEN MUN DRAGON BOAT RACES ON THURSDAY (JUNE 8) IN THE CASTLE PEAK BAY TYPHOON SHELTER FACING SAM SHING ESTATE.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 12.45 PM. PRESS BADGES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE VENUE AND GIS STAFF WILL BE THERE TO GIVE ASSISTANCE.

MEANWHILE, A PICTURE ON THIS MORNING'S EYE-DOTTING CEREMONY WILL BE SENT BY FACSIMILE LATER TODAY.

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MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1989

- 23 -

WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY)
(JUNE 5) STOOD AT 52.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 307.432 MILLION CUBIC
METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 159.721 MILLION
CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 27.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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